DATES & DATA

June 20

NPMA meets: The National Property Management Association meets at 11:30 a.m. June 20 and July 18 at the Gilruth Center. For more information, contact Ray Whitaker at (281) 212-6030.

June 21

Astronomy seminar: The JSC Astronomy Seminar Club meets at noon June 21 and 28 in Bldg. 31, Rm. 248A. For details, contact Al Jackson at x35037.

Scuba club meets: The Lunarfins meet at 7:30 p.m. For more information, contact Mike Manering at x32618.

Spaceteam Toastmasters meet: The Spaceteam Toastmasters meet at 11:30 a.m. June 21 and 28 at United Space Alliance, 600 Gemini. For more information, contact Patricia Blackwell at (281) 280-6863.

June 22

Communicators meet: The Clear Lake Communicators, a Toastmasters International club, meet June 22 and 29 at 11:30 at Wyle Laboratories, 1100 Hercules, Suite 305. For more information, contact Allen Prescott at (281) 282-3281or Richard Lehman at (281) 280-6557.

June 29

Radio Club meets: The JSC Amateur Radio Club meets at 6:30 p.m. at Piccadilly, 2465 Bay Area Blvd. For more information, contact Larry Dietrich at x39198.

July 3

NSS meets: The Clear Lake area chapter of the National Space Society meets at 6:30 p.m. at the Parker Williams Branch of the Harris Co. Library at 10851 Scarsdale Blvd. For additional information, contact Murray Clark at (281) 367-2227.

OUT&ABOUT★

NASA JSC Photo 2000-04218 by James Blair

JSC sponsored two outreach booths at the recent Aerospace Medical Association's 71st Annual Scientific Meeting in Houston May 14 - 18. AsMA organizers reported a record attendance of more than 1,600 at the event, which featured presentations from former NASA Flight Director Eugene Kranz and JSC Director of Space and Life Sciences Dave Williams. Information on next year's conference in Reno, Nev., can be found at www.asma.org.

Shown here, left to right are George Beck, Wyle, and Mike Powell, NASA, talking in front of the NASA booth.

July 6

Warning System Test: The site-wide Employee Warning System performs its monthly audio test at noon. For more information, contact Bob Gaffney at x34249.

July 11

Aero Club meets: The Bay Area Aero Club meets at 7 p.m. at the Houston Gulf Airport clubhouse at 2750 FM 1266 in League City. For more information, contact Larry Hendrickson at x32050.

July 12

IAAP meets: The Clear Lake/NASA Chapter of the International Association of Administrative Professionals meets at 5:30 p.m. at Bay Oaks Country Club. Cost is $16. For details and reservations, call Tami Barbour at (281) 488-0055, x238.

July 13

Airplane club meets: The Radio Control Airplane Club meets at 7 p.m. at the Clear Lake Park building. For more information, contact Bill Langdoc at x35970.

MAES meets: The Society of Mexican-American Engineers and Scientists meets at 11:30 a.m. in Bldg. 16, Rm. 111. For more information, contact George Salazar at x30162.

July 14

Astronomers meet: The JSC Astronomical Society meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Center for Advanced Space Studies, 3600 Bay Area Blvd. For details, contact Chuck Shaw at x35416.

July 19

Scuba club meets: The Lunarfins meets at 7:30 p.m. For more information, contact Mike Manering at x32618.

TICKET WINDOW

The following discount tickets are available at the Exchange Stores

General Cinema Theaters				$5.50
Sony Loew's Theaters				$5.50
AMC Theaters				$5.00
Fiesta Texas	adult	$20.50.	child (under 48 inches)	$17.25
Astroworld	1 day	$21.00	2 day	$31.00
WaterWorld				$12.00
Moody Gardens (2 events) (does not include Aquarium Pyramid)				$10.75
Moody Gardens (Aquarium only)				$9.25
Sea World	adult	$29.00	child (3-11 years)	$19.25
Schlitterbahn	adult	$21.50	child (3-11 years)	$18.00
Space Center Houston	adult	$11.00	child (age 4-11)	$7.25
(JSC civil service employees free.)				
Space Center Houston annual pass				$18.75
Splash Town	1 day	$13.00	Season Pass	$37.50
Postage Stamps (book of 20)				$6.60

Exchange Store hours

Monday-Friday
Bldg. 3 7 a.m.-4 p.m.
Bldg. 11 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

- All tickets are nonrefundable.
- Metro tokens and value cards are available.

For additional information, please call x35350.

Please bring your driver's license to pay by personal check.

NASA BRIEFS

CREW NAMED FOR FUTURE SPACE STATION MISSION

Veteran Astronaut Jim Wetherbee will command the eighth space shuttle mission to visit the International Space Station on a flight in 2001 to rotate space station crews and continue space station assembly.

Joining Wetherbee on the flight deck for STS-102 aboard *Discovery* will be Pilot James Kelly. Rounding out the crew are Mission Specialists Andy Thomas, Paul Richards, and previously assigned space station Expedition 2 crewmembers, Yury Usachev, Jim Voss and Susan Helms.

NASA TECHNOLOGY MAY REPLACE DENTIST'S DRILL

In the near future, a laser device inspired by NASA may replace the dentist's drill. Flip a switch and it will also replace the dentist's razor-sharp scalpel. Best of all, it's virtually painless and requires no anesthesia for most patients.

Lasers exist today that work on hard tissue like teeth to prepare the tooth for filling, and on soft tissue for gum treatment and oral surgery.

But none does both, and buying two laser systems is expensive. That is one reason why only 5 percent of approximately 140,000 U.S. dentists use a laser system.

Now, researchers at NASA's Langley Research Center have demonstrated that the two laser wavelengths important to dentists can be produced from a single, easy-to-use system. Both wavelengths can be produced using the same hardware, dramatically reducing cost and complexity. Dentists can switch between the two by selecting the amount and rate of energy pumped into the specially designed laser system. The resulting hardware is about one-half the size of two distinct laser systems and does not require the laser system to be "tuned" by the operator as do typical present-day systems.

A typical hard tissue laser costs about $38,000, and a soft tissue laser costs around $25,000. The dual wavelength unit made possible by this new technology is expected to cost less than $30,000.

Lantis Laser, Inc., Hewitt, New Jersey, is working with NASA Langley to refine the technology to explore its potential as a commercial dental laser product. Under the terms of a Space Act Agreement, a Lantis scientist will perform research in a Langley laboratory with help from the technology's inventors. If the technology receives Food and Drug Administration approval by mid-2001, the goal is to begin sales of the device by the end of 2001.

The discovery of the two-wavelength technology is a spin-off of work to develop high-power lasers for remote sensing of the atmosphere, a key element in NASA's atmospheric sciences mission. The technology has also been used in aeronautics research including measurements of winds, wind shear and turbulence in flight and measurement of wake vortices from the ground in airport terminal areas. Those investigations led to the discovery that it is possible to selectively produce two or more useful wavelengths from a single laser source.

SPACE CENTER Roundup

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